

12. (New) A device for monitoring the environment of a vehicle being parked, comprising:
at least one video camera, the at least one camera having a vision field the vision field
being fixed relative to the vehicle;
at least one display unit, one of the at least one display unit being a video display unit for
representing the vision field; and
at least one object-detection sensor for detecting objects in an area outside of and directly
adjacent to the vision field;
wherein a driver of the vehicle is informed via the at least one display unit of an existence
of the objects located outside of the vision field of the at least one video camera detected by the at
least one object-detection sensor.

13. (New) The device as recited in claim 12, wherein the existence of the objects outside of
the vision field are represented in edge areas of the video display unit.

14. (New) The device as recited in claim 12, further comprising:
an object-detection unit; and
an image processing unit;
wherein the at least one object-detection sensor is coupled to the object-detection unit, the
object-detection unit being coupled to the image processing unit for selected digital image
processing of video images from the at least one video camera, objects in the vision field of the at
least one video camera being automatically detected and communicated to the driver.

15. (New) The device as recited in claim 14, further comprising:
a downstream superimposition unit;
wherein objects detected by the object-detection unit are modeled using simple geometric
forms, and the geometric forms are superimposed on a video image using the downstream
superimposition unit.

16. (New) The device as recited in claim 12, further comprising:
a maneuver calculating unit, the maneuver calculating unit processing external parameters
including an instantaneous steering angle;
wherein an actual-steering-angle display can be carried out in the video display unit by
applying calculations made in the maneuver calculating unit.

17. (New) The device as recited in claim 16, the object-detection unit supplies the maneuver calculating unit with data concerning detected objects and the maneuver calculating unit calculates a parking maneuver on the basis of the supplied data.

18. (New) The device as recited in claim 17, wherein the parking maneuver is represented in the video display unit in the form of a steering angle suggestion.

A 19. (New) The device as recited in claim 17, further comprising:
a control unit, the control unit being coupled to the maneuver calculating unit, the control unit automatically executing the parking maneuver.

20. (New) The device as recited in claim 19, wherein the maneuver calculating unit includes a storage unit for storing standard parking maneuvers including parking in a private garage, a standard parking maneuver being accessible for automatically executing the parking maneuver when the corresponding environment is detected by the object-detection unit.

21. (New) The device as recited in claim 12, wherein the at least one object-detection sensor is one of an ultrasound sensor, a radar sensor, and a lidar sensor.

22. (New) The device as recited in claim 14, wherein distances to detected objects are calculated using the object-detection unit, numerical values of the distances being overlaid in the video display unit.

Remarks

This Preliminary Amendment cancels without prejudice claims 1-11, in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE00/03418, and adds new claims 12 to 22. The new claims conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not add new matter to the application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), the Substitute Specification includes the Abstract and contains no new matter. The amendments reflected in the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) are to conform the Specification and Abstract to U.S. Patent